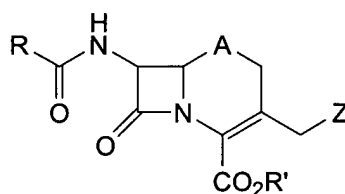


Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.
Please amend claims 1 and 2, cancel claims 3-16, and add claims 17-26.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A compound having the ~~general~~ formula:



(I)

in which

R is a benzyl, 2-thienylmethyl, or cyanomethyl group;

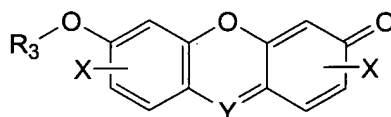
R' is selected from the group consisting of H, alkyl, physiologically acceptable ~~salts salt~~ or metal, an ammonium ~~cations cation~~, ~~--CHR₂OCO(CH₂)_nCH₂--~~, ~~and~~ ~~--CHR₂OCOC(CH₃)₃--~~, in which

R₂ is selected from the group consisting of H ~~and~~, lower alkyl, ~~acylthiomethyl, acyloxy-alpha-benzyl~~, deltabutyrolactonyl, methoxycarbonyloxymethyl, phenyl, methylsulphinylmethyl, β-morpholinoethyl, dialkylaminoethyl, and dialkylaminocarbonyloxymethyl, ~~and n is from 1 to 4;~~

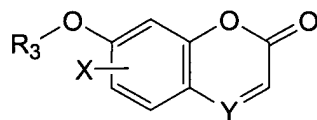
A is selected from the group consisting of ~~S~~, O, SO, SO₂, and CH₂; and

Z is a donor fluorescent moiety.

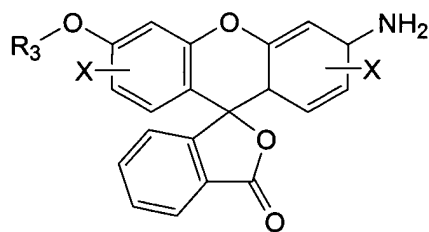
2. (Currently Amended) The compound of claim 1, wherein the donor fluorescent moiety is selected from:



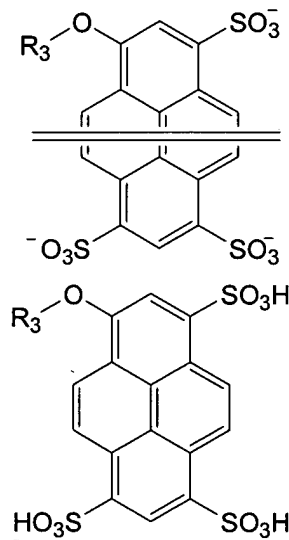
(II)



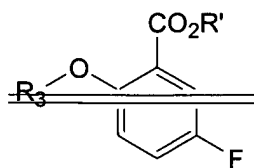
(III)



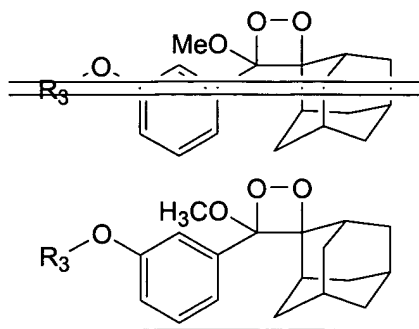
(IV)



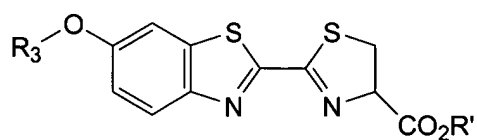
(V)



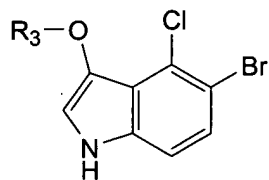
(VI)



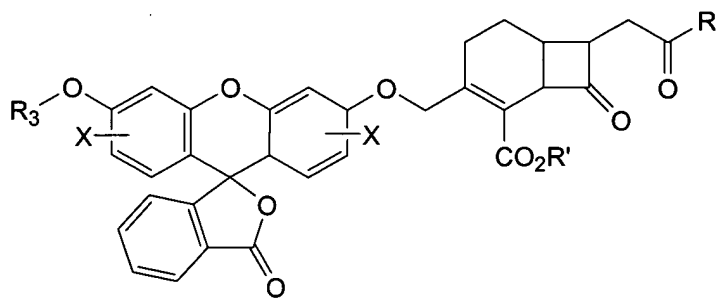
(VII)



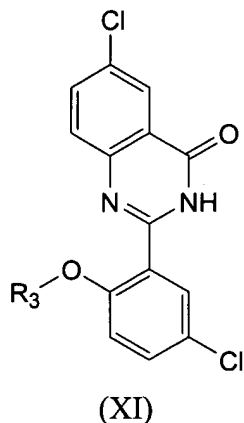
(VIII)



(IX)



(X); and



~~and~~ wherein

~~R and R' are as defined in claim 1,~~

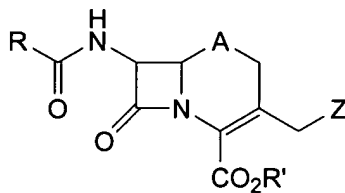
R₃ is ~~a linker for the fluorescent moiety~~ a direct bond;

X is H, F, Cl, Br, or CO₂R'[[,]]₁ and

Y is N, CH, C-CN, or C-CF₃.

3. - 16. (Canceled)

17. (New) A compound having the formula:



(I)

in which

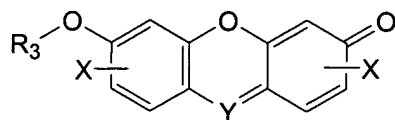
R is a benzyl, 2-thienylmethyl, or cyanomethyl group;

R' is selected from the group consisting of H, alkyl, physiologically acceptable salt or metal, an ammonium cation, and --CHR₂OCOC(CH₃)₃--, in which

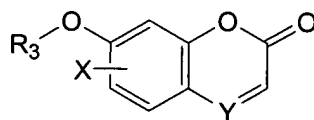
R₂ is selected from the group consisting of H, lower alkyl, deltabutyrolactonyl, methoxycarbonyloxymethyl, phenyl, methylsulphinylmethyl, β-morpholinoethyl, dialkylaminoethyl, and dialkylaminocarbonyloxymethyl;

A is selected from the group consisting of S, O, SO, SO₂, and CH₂; and

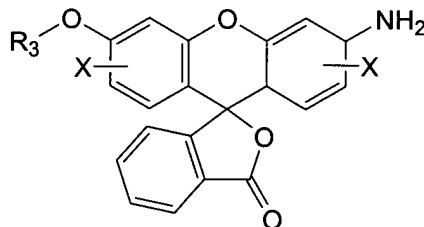
Z is selected from:



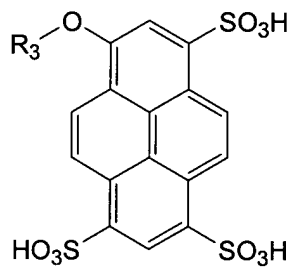
(II)



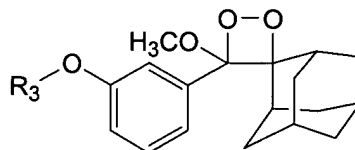
(III)



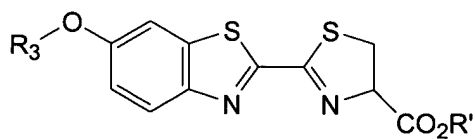
(IV)



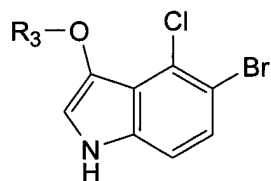
(V)



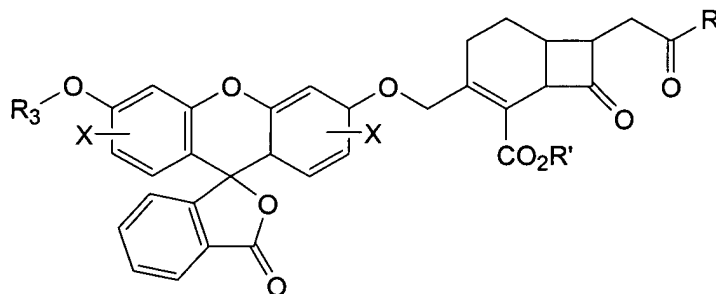
(VII)



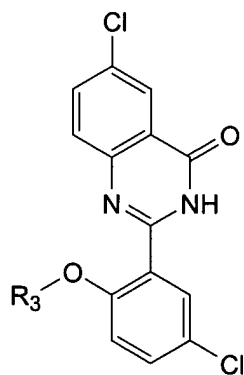
(VIII)



(IX)



(X); and



(XI)

wherein

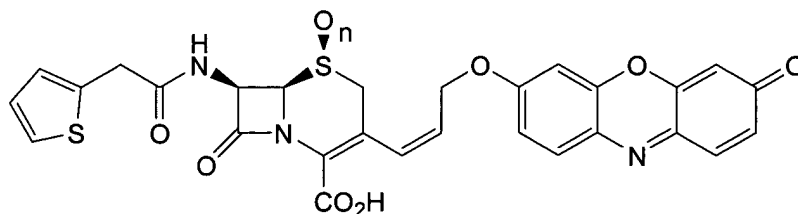
R₃ is a direct bond;

X is H, F, Cl, Br, or CO₂R'; and

Y is N, CH, C-CN, or C-CF₃.

18. (New) The compound of claim 1, wherein A is selected from O, SO, SO₂, and CH₂.

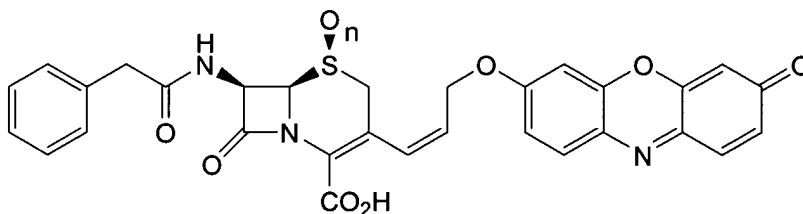
19. (New) A compound having the formula:



wherein n is 0, 1, or 2.

20. (New) The compound of claim 19, wherein n is 1 or 2.

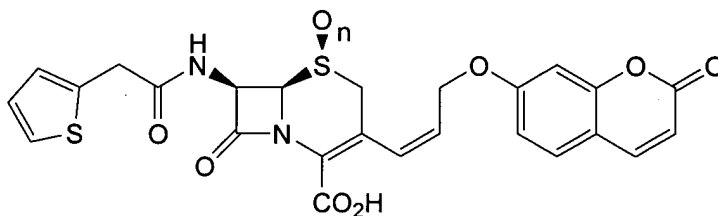
21. (New) A compound having the formula:



wherein n is 0, 1, or 2.

22. (New) The compound of claim 21, wherein n is 1 or 2.

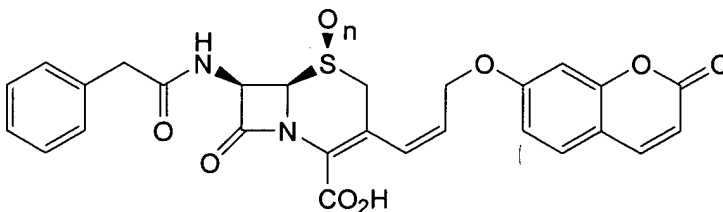
23. (New) A compound having the formula:



wherein n is 0, 1, or 2.

24. (New) The compound of claim 23, wherein n is 1 or 2.

25. (New) A compound having the formula:



wherein n is 0, 1, or 2.

26. (New) The compound of claim 25, wherein n is 1 or 2.